## CLASSIFICATION RES RESTRICTED BECURITY INFORMATION CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

| REPORT |  |
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| CD NO  |  |

COUNTRY **SUBJECT** 

DATE OF

1952

INFORMATION

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**PUBLISHED** 

Daily newspaper

Geographic - Earthquake

DATE DIST. # Jun 1952

WHERE

**PUBLISHED** 

Stalinabad

NO. OF PAGES 1

DATE

**PUBLISHED** 

8 Mar 1952

Russian

SUPPLEMENT TO

REPORT NO.

LANGUAGE

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

Kommunist Tadzhikistana

## SEISMOLOGIST REPORTS ON STALINABAD FARTHQUAKE

P. Semenov, director of the Institute of Seismology, Academy of Sciences Tadzhik SSR, writes the following concerning the earthquake which took place in Stalinabad on 27 February 1952:

The Institute of Seismology has just completed a study of the earthquake and has established that although the quake seemed to occur in the form of one vertical shock lasting several seconds, there were actually two successive shocks. The dislocation which caused the earthquake took place at a depth of not more than 3-5 kilometers below the surface of the earth; consequently, the surface area affected by the shock was comparatively small. It was for this reason also that the seismographical stations in Central Asia barely recorded this quake.

Seismologists classify quakes of this type as surface shocks which are caused by dislocations at superficial depths in mountainous regions. In the case of this quake, there apparently occurred a shift in the limestone rocks which exist in the valley of the Kafirnigan River between the Gissar and Baba-Tau mountains.

The quake on 27 February was caused by an orogenic process which in Tadzhikistan manifests itself by the rising of some areas and the sinking of others.

Since it is located on a thick stratum of losss, the city of Stalinabad did not feel this shock with equal intensity everywhere: where this stratum is thicker, the shock was less intense and, conversely, where it is thinner, the shock was more intense. This is due to the fact that the loess stratum is structurally composed of a dustlike particles separated by air spaces inelysis of the loss soils at Stalitabed has shown that they contain up to 53 percent air, and thus serve as an effective stock absorber when earthquakes occur.

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